

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 08648 111708Z

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 AID-05 EB-08
ICA-20 COME-00 TRSE-00 ARA-14 EA-12 NEA-11 OES-07
EPAE-00 CEQ-01 HA-05 INT-05 HEW-06 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 /141 W

-----072243 120416Z /17

R 111453Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2684

INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY SANA

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS ROME 8648

PASS USDA, AID

FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FAO, AORG

SUBJECT: FAO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE--GRANT TO SUPPRESS LOCUST PLAGUE

1. FAO HAS ANNOUNCED THAT DOL. 800,000 WORTH OF INSECTICIDES AND EQUIPMENT ARE BEING PROVIDED ON AN EMERGENCY BASIS BY THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM OF THE FAO TO HELP SUDAN (DOL. 250,000), ARAB REPUBLIC OF YEMEN (DOL. 250,000), PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF YEMEN (DOL. 100,000), AND SOMALIA (DOL. 200,000) TO HELP SUPPRESS A DANGEROUS OUTBREAK OF DESERT LOCUST BEFORE IT DEVELOPS INTO A PLAGUE WHICH COULD INVADE LARGE PARTS OF TWO CONTINENTS.

2. FAO PRESS RELEASE GOES ON TO STATE BEGIN QUOTE NATIONAL PLANT PROTECTION SERVICES OF THE COUNTRIES BORDERING THE RED SEA AND UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 ROME 08648 111708Z

THE GULF OF ADEN HAVE BEEN DESPERATELY FIGHTING THE LOCUST SINCE THE FIRST SWARMS IN 16 YEARS FLEW OVER THE AREA IN JANUARY. BY THE END OF THE WINTER BREEDING SEASON, THEIR RESERVE STOCKS OF PESTICIDES BECAME EXHAUSTED AND THEIR EQUIPMENT WAS BADLY IN NEED OF REPAIR.

THIS ASSISTANCE IS AIMED AT HELPING THESE GOVERNMENTS TO MAINTAIN THE MOMENTUM OF THEIR CONTROL CAMPAIGNS.

THE OGADEN, RECENTLY THE SCENE OF ARMED CONFLICT, IS EXPECTED TO BE OPENED TO LOCUST CONTROL PERSONNEL IN TIME FOR A LAST MINUTE EFFORT TO CONTROL LOCUST CONCENTRATIONS STILL ON LAND BEFORE THEY MASS INTO SWARMS AND FLY OFF.

TO MAKE AN ON-THE-SPOT ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION, THE DG OF FAO SENT THE ORGANIZATION'S SENIOR OFFICER IN CHARGE OF COORDINATING ANTI-DESERT LOCUST OPERATIONS, MR. JEAN ROY, TO THE AFFECTED AREAS. HE REPORTED THAT THE OUTBREAK HAD BEEN ABETTED BY HEAVY RAINS AND ABUNDANT GREEN VEGETATION AND HE WARNED THAT SWARMS OF LOCUSTS COULD MOVE NORTHWARDS TO SUDAN AND THE ARAB PENINSULA AND SOUTHWARDS TO KENYA. HE STATED THAT "AT THIS STAGE THE LOCUST FLEDGLINGS OF A NEW GENERATION HAVE TO BE FOUGHT BECAUSE IF SWARMS OF MATURE LOCUST ARE LEFT TO ESCAPE TO THE DESERTS BEYOND, THE FIGHT COULD BECOME ALMOST HOPELESS AND BRING ABOUT A PLAGUE OF EXTREMELY DANGEROUS PROPORTIONS." THE PRESENT STOCK REPLENISHMENT OPERATION POSES LOGISTIC PROBLEMS, AS HUNDREDS OF TONS OF DANGEROUS CHEMICALS MUST BE AIR-LIFTED OVER LONG DISTANCES TO REMOTE DESERT POSTS. SOME COUNTRIES ARE ASSISTING BILATERALLY. THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY IS SENDING DOL. 400,000 WORTH OF PESTICIDES AND EQUIPMENT TO SUDAN, WHILE IRAQ IS REPORTED TO BE CONVOYING SUPPLIES BY TRUCK TO BOTH YEMENS. END QUOTE

3. COMMENT: THE FAO USUALLY DOES NOT PUBLICIZE IN ROME ITS TCP GRANTS. THIS GRANT IS OVER MAXIMUM SIZE OF TCP, DOL. 250,000, BUT SINCE IT IS DIVIDED AMONG FOUR COUNTRY RECIPIENTS,
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PAGE 03 ROME 08648 111708Z

IT MEETS CRITERIA. USG MAY WISH TO CITE IT AS GOOD EXAMPLE OF USE OF TCP IN THAT IT IS A CASE WHERE QUICK REACTION IS NECESSARY TO AVOID AN EMERGENCY. FURTHER, IT IS A SHORT-TERM EFFORT WHICH, IF SUCCESSFUL, WILL BE OF ASSISTANCE TO MANY MORE COUNTRIES THAN JUST THE RECIPIENTS. GARDNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780201-0683
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780569/aaaacgkw.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8c138ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2719705
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FAO TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE--GRANT TO SUPPRESS LOCUST PLAGUE
TAGS: AORG, FAO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbs://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8c138ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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